REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by MURAYAMA et al., alone or in view of DE SOUSA.

The device of claim 1 and the process of claim 5 differ from those disclosed by MURAYAMA and DE SOUSA in the integration in the device of control means adapted to receive a control algorithm by downloading from an electronic equipment and from the display and manual operating means.

The device provides downloading of an algorithm that means all aromas diffusion sequence signals, from connected electronic equipment as a first step process. The aromas diffusion sequence begins only at the end of the downloading step. As this algorithm is downloaded, even though the device and the electronic equipment are disconnected, the perfumes diffusion sequence may be done.

In the device disclosed by MURAYAMA, signal downloading is done from a host center (402) to a computer (401) and not from an electronic device to control means integrated in the device (column 6, lines 11-16).

Moreover, the device disclosed in Figure 17 of MURAYAMA reads signals stored in a memory card by the card reader 1601 or receives signals from the sensors A, B and C. References of an input device is done (column 12, lines 7-9) but there is no reference to downloading of all aromas diffusion sequence signals

before the beginning of diffusion. MURAYAMA does not disclose an aromas diffusion device comprising a display or manual operating means.

In the device disclosed in MURAYAMA, a "signal" may correspond to a diffusion of one or more aromas simultaneously. Nevertheless, an aromas diffusion sequence corresponds to successive aromas diffusion under control of a central unit (page 8, lines 25-30).

In all device disclosed by MURAYAMA, an olfactory stimulus is diffused after reception of the corresponding input control signal. Thus, an aromas diffusion sequence may be composed by successive steps, each step comprising a signal reception phase, a diffusion phase of the corresponding aroma and a neutralization phase.

With the claimed device, an aromas diffusion sequence is made up of successive steps whose first is the reception of all signals that is the algorithm, and the following steps are those of diffusion of all aromas sequence separated by a neutralization step.

Neither MURAYAMA nor DE SOUSA discloses a device with an integrated device of control means adapted to receive a control algorithm by downloading, that is, the downloading of all aromas diffusion sequence signals from an electronic equipment before executing the aromas diffusion program, a device comprising a display and manual operating means.

Thus, claims 1 and 5 of the above-mentioned application are novel with regard to MURAYAMA and DE SOUSA.

Downloading of all signals of the diffusion sequence from an electronic equipment before executing the aroma diffusion program defined by claims 1 and 5 aims to solve problems of desynchronization between images and aromas due for example to the loss of connection during the diffusion or an overload of passband or a signal perturbation by electromagnetic field.

Aromas diffusion sequence signals or algorithm downloaded before aromas diffusion provide mobility of the diffusion device during the aromas diffusion sequence that makes its use easier.

Moreover, with the display and manual operating means, algorithm downloading is favorable to a future device development, an adaptable device that may receive other data than signals for aromas diffusion only like for example titles of images or films or other information linked to aroma diffusion via the use of the display system.

This device contributes to a better user interface for the user information and intervention by giving information like aroma name during and before diffusion and informs the user of a wrong disk insertion by an error message. The user is guided and informed of diffusion sequence before aromas diffusion begins or before the diffusion of an undesirable aroma.

So that this anticipation is possible, the downloading of all diffusion sequence signals must necessarily take place before the beginning of the diffusion.

The aroma diffusion device may be manually used alone for diffusion of an aroma chosen by the user with the user interface that is the display and manual operating means (page 5, lines 26-31).

None of the cited references disclose or refer to the use of a device with an integrated device of control means adapted to receive a control algorithm by downloading, that is, downloading of all signals of the aromas diffusion sequence from an electronic equipment before executing the diffusion program, the diffusion device comprising a display and manual operating means so that no combination of documents is susceptible to suggest the claimed invention to the person skilled in the art.

It is not obvious to use a device with a display and manual operating means that downloads all signals of the aromas diffusion sequence from an electronic equipment before executing the diffusion program, to provide at the same time the mobility of the diffusing device, the prevention of desynchronization problems between images and aromas sequenced diffusion, by the user interface to guide the user, to allow the user the possibility of anticipating aromas diffusion during the program and to interfere in the diffusion program, to select the future

aromas to be diffused or to optimize and facilitate the device operation.

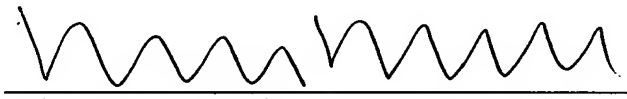
Consequently, the invention involves an inventive step over MURAYAMA and DE SOUSA.

As the claims now in the case clearly being out these distinctions with ample particularity, it is believed that they are all patentable, and passage to issue at the time of the next Official Action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



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